

## Letter from Theodore N. Vail to Alexander Graham Bell, June 24, 1910

Acknowledged you were abroad and now in Australia and that letter has Cox American Telephone And Telegraph Company 15 Dey Street THEODORE N. VAIL PRESIDENT New York June 24, 1910. 680929 Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, Washington, D.C. My dear Mr. Bell:-

I enclose you a letter received from Mr. Sunny, President of the Chicago Telephone Company and one of our Vice Presidents, which indicates request from Mr. Young, Editor of Popular Electricity, for an article from you.

As you have the interests of our development very much at heart, I would add my request to that of Mr. Young's, for I think that it would be of considerable advantage. I do not know of any question in which the public are more interested and certainly there is nothing that has ever contributed more to the public convenience, comfort and welfare than this invention of yours.

Will you kindly either let Mr. Sunny know direct or through me as to your decision in the matter.

Very sincerely yours, President. Enclosure. TNV/WA.

680929 POPULAR ELECTRICITY IN PLAIN ENGLISH A MONTHLY MAGAZINE in-void ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE MAGAZINE. NOT TO INDIVIDUALS CHICAGO, ILL. add June 16, 1910 B. E. Sunny Esq., Pres. Chicago Telephone Co., 203 Washington St., Chicago, Ill. Dear Sir:-

Supplementing our telephone conversation of to-day, what I wish to do is to secure a signed article from Dr. Alexander Graham Bell which shall set forth the incidents

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connected with his work preliminary to the discovery of the principle of the telephone, and how he finally worked out the great invention.

In a recent address which Dr. Bell made before the Telephone Society of Washington, he embodied exactly the ideas which I would like to get in the form of an article, and which would be of the utmost interest to non-technical, as well as technical readers. In this address he began with his boyhood days and explained how his father and grandfather before him were teachers of vocal physiology, and how his training was along that line; then he went on to explain how he made his first experiments in the artificial production of sounds, such as are made by the organs of speech; how he finally studied the experiments of Helmholtz, and incidentally discovered how to produce the vibrations by means of electricity; then finally how his last experiments lead to the making of the real telephone.

This all makes a story of exceeding interest and I would like to get it in the form of an article, perhaps revised and changed somewhat here and there, and signed by Dr. Bell himself. If you will use your influence, through Mr. Vail or otherwise, to help me get this article, I assure you that you will be doing a great favor, not only to myself, but to the publishers of this magazine.

Popular Electricity, as you know, is the only magazine on electricity of a non-technical nature and going to the general public. The people at large are so familiar with the name of Bell, and look up to him almost with reverence as the inventor of the telephone, that I believe he can reach them and speak a word to them in no better way than through our magazine. Now that Mr. Edison has already written an 2 article for us, I would very much like to follow it up with an article by Dr. Bell and any assistance which you can render will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly, Young Editor. H.W. Young-T